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REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Karaoguz. Claims 1-6 are currently amended. Reconsideration and further examination in view of the claim amendments are respectfully requested.

The presently claimed invention distinguishes Karaoguz because it is a distributed technique. Karaoguz teaches a centralized system for controlling a WLAN. Access Points gather information from stations and send that information to a central server. Para. 0024. The central server then analyzes the information to reconfigure the WLAN. Para. 0026. In contrast, according to the presently claimed invention reconfiguration decisions are made by the access points. Advantages of the claimed technique are improved scalability and avoidance of a single point of failure. This distinguishing feature is recited in claim 1 as “[a] method for use by an access point ... selecting one of the bid messages based at least in-part on the at least one parameter; and causing the station which submitted the selected bid message to become associated with the access point.” (emphasis added) Similarly, claim 6 recites “[a] method for use in an access point ... selecting one of the bid messages based at least in-part on the at least one parameter; and causing a station to become associated with the access point based upon the one or more parameters.” If one were to follow the teaching of Karaoguz then selecting would be done by the central server. For the reasons stated above, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 and 6 is respectfully requested. Claims 2-5 are dependent claims which further distinguish the invention, and which are allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims.

The Office objected to the Specification and claims because of various informalities. Those informalities have been corrected in accordance with the reasons for objection stated in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objections is therefore requested.

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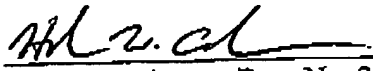
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Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' Attorney at the number listed below so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

19 January 2006  
Date

  
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